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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/475,206	12/30/1999	FEN-CHUNG KUNG	1999-0309	6067
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MR. S. H. DWORETSKY AT&T CORP. BOX 4110 MIDDLETOWN, NJ 07748			EXAMINER BOAKYE, ALEXANDER O	
			ART UNIT 2667	PAPER NUMBER

DATE MAILED: 03/07/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/475,206

Applicant(s)

KUNG ET AL.

Examiner

Alexander Boakye

Art Unit

2666

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 10 November 2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1,4-14,17-28,30-33,44 and 45 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1,4-14,17-28,30-33,44 and 45 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____ 6) ☐ Other: _____

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claim 1, 4-14, 17-26, 44 and 45 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Dezonno et al. (US Patent # 5,400,327) in view of Shaw (US Patent # 5,278,894).

Regarding claims 1, 4 and 11 Dezonno discloses: multiple ports identified by at least one designation element (column 4, lines 11-12 ; the claimed designated element is a telephone number resident in the telephone extension station of external telephone network), at least one end user device connected to each port (the claimed end user device 20 is connected to multiport 12 as shown in Fig. 1), a transceiver (column 5, lines 38-39), a processing unit (column 4, lines 12-13). Dezonno differs from the claimed invention in that Dezonno does not disclose providing greeting. However, Shaw with the same field of endeavor teaches providing greeting (lines 1-3 of the abstract). One of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to incorporate greeting into the communication network in order to provide facility for allowing

personalized messages to be used for individual incoming callers. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate greeting such as the one taught by Shaw into the communication network of Dezonno with the motivation being that it provides capability for allowing personalized messages to be used for individual incoming callers.

Regarding claims 5, 18, Dezonno teaches an end user interface (10 Fig.2). What Dezonno fails to teach is wherein the greeting and the message are customized. However, Shaw with the same field of endeavor discloses that the greeting and the message are customized (lines 1-3 of the abstract). One of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to incorporate customized greeting messages into the communication network in order to be able to leave special messages for identified callers. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate customized greeting messages such as the one taught by Shaw into the communication network of Dezonno with the motivation being that it provides capability for the system to leave special messages for identified callers.

Regarding claims 6 and 19, Dezonno teaches end user interface (10 Fig. 2). What Dezonno fails to disclose stores multiple greetings and messages. However, Shaw with the same field of endeavor teaches stores multiple greetings and messages (column 3, lines 63-66). One of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to incorporate stores multiple greetings and messages into the communication network in order to provide message updating.

Regarding claims 7 and 20, the claimed at least one end user device provides a distinct alert is inherent in the automatic call distributor of Dozonno.

Regarding claim 8, 21, the claimed distinct alert is a distinctive ring is inherent in the automatic call distributor of Dozonno.

Regarding claims 9, 10, 22, 23, Dezonno teaches end user interface (10 Fig. 2). What Dezonno fails to disclose is wherein the end user interface displays. However, Shaw with the same field of endeavor teaches that the end user interface displays (column 2, lines 27-38). One of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to incorporate displays into the communication network in order to filter out unwanted messages. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate display into the communication network of Dezonno with the motivation being that it provides capability for the system to be able to play back a special message left for identified callers.

Regarding claim 12, Dozonno teaches that at least one end user device includes more POTS telephones (see Fig. 1).

Regarding claim 13, Dozonno teaches that the designation element is a directory number (column 8, lines 42-45; the claimed designation element is a directory number corresponds to telephone number as evidenced by Dozonno).

Regarding 44, Dozonno teaches that the end user interface is located at a customer premises (end user interface is contained in 10 of Fig. 2).

Regarding claims 14, 17, 24, 25, 26 and 45, Dozonno teaches multiple ports identified by multiple designations with at least one end user device connected to each

port (column 4, lines 11-12; the claimed multiple designations are telephone numbers resident in the telephone extension station of external telephone network; the claimed end user device 20 is connected to multiport 12 as shown in Fig. 1), a processing unit (column 4, lines 12-13), the processing unit (14 Fig. 2) routes the signal to one of the multiple ports depending on a port selected by an end user, a transceiver (column 5, lines 38-39).

Dezonno differs from the claimed invention in that Dozonno does not disclose providing greeting. However, Shaw with the same field of endeavor teaches providing greeting (lines 1-3 of the abstract). One of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to incorporate greeting into the communication network in order to provide facility for allowing personalized messages to be used for individual incoming callers. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate greeting such as the one taught by Shaw into the communication network of Dezonno with the motivation being that it provides capability for allowing personalized messages to be used for individual incoming callers.

2. Claims 27, 28 and 30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Smith et al. (US Patent # 5,471,523).

Regarding claim 27, Smith discloses a method of associating a directory number with multiple ports on an end user interface located at a customer premises (EXT numbers 10, 11 with corresponding ports 22 and 20 of Fig. 5 read on the claimed directory numbers with multiple ports; end user interface is resident at Block 18 of Fig. 5

which is a customer premises): mapping the directory number with the multiple ports (the claimed mapping the directory number with the multiple ports reads on mapping EXT 10, EXT 11 with ports 22 and 20 as indicated in Fig. 5), receiving an incoming call (column 4, lines 16-23), providing a greeting (column 4, lines 38-44), selecting a port using the greeting (column 4, lines), and directing the incoming call to the selected port (column 9, lines 20-23). Smith does not explicitly disclose broadband communications system supporting Internet Protocol telephony service. However, one of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to incorporate digital phone into telephone system such as the one taught by Smith in order to be able to support Internet Protocol telephony service. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate digital phone into broadband communication system with the motivation being that it provides capability for the system to support voice and Internet services to end users, thus enhancing efficiency.

Regarding claim 28, Smith teaches alerting to the incoming call using a distinctive alert associated with the selected port (column 5, lines 35-41; the claimed distinctive alert reads on ringing).

Regarding claim 30, Smith teaches the step of providing a message after the greeting (102, 104 of Fig. 6).

Claims 31-33 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Smith et al. (US Patent # 5,471,523) in view of Shaw (US Patent # 5,278,894).

Regarding claim 31, Smith teaches a method of associating a directory number with multiple ports on an end user interface (EXT numbers 10, 11 with corresponding

ports 22 and 20 of Fig. 5 read on the claimed directory numbers with multiple ports; end user interface is resident at Block 18 of Fig. 5 which is a customer premises). What Smith fails to disclose is that the greeting and the message are customized.

However, Shaw with the same field of endeavor discloses that the greeting and the message are customized (lines 1-3 of the abstract). One of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to incorporate customized greeting messages into the communication network in order to be able to leave special messages for identified callers. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate customized greeting messages such as the one taught by Shaw into the communication network of Smith with the motivation being that it provides capability for the system to leave special messages for identified callers.

Regarding claim 32, Smith teaches a method of associating a directory number with multiple ports on an end user interface (EXT numbers 10, 11 with corresponding ports 22 and 20 of Fig. 5 read on the claimed directory numbers with multiple ports; end user interface is resident at Block 18 of Fig. 5 which is a customer premises). What Smith fails to disclose is step of selecting the greeting and the message from multiple greetings and messages. However, Shaw with the same field of endeavor teaches the step of selecting the greeting and the message from multiple greetings and messages (column 3, lines 19-25). One of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to incorporate multiple greetings and messages into the communication network in order to provide message updating. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate selecting multiple

greeting and messages such as the one taught by Shaw into communication network of Smith with the motivation being that it provides capability for the system to leave special messages for identified callers.

Regarding claim 33, Smith teaches a method of associating a directory number with multiple ports on an end user interface (EXT numbers 10, 11 with corresponding ports 22 and 20 of Fig. 5 read on the claimed directory numbers with multiple ports; end user interface is resident at Block 18 of Fig. 5 which is a customer premises). What Smith fails to teach is that each of the multiple ports includes a unique identity and displaying. However, Shaw with the same field of endeavor teaches that each of the multiple ports includes a unique identity and displaying (column 2, lines 27-38; see Fig.2). One of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to incorporate unique identity and displaying into the communication network in order to filter out unwanted messages. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate display into the communication network of Smith with the motivation being that it provides capability for the system to be able to play back a special message left for identified callers.

Response to Arguments

3. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-14, 17-28, 30-33 and 44-45 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

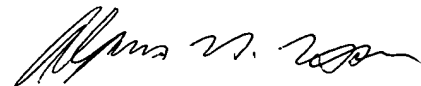
Conclusion

4. Any inquiry concerning this application or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Alexander Boakye whose telephone number is (571) 272-3183. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F from 8:30am to 6:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Chi Pham can be reached on (571) 272-3179. The fax number is (571) 273-8300. Any inquiry of a general or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to Electronic Business Center numbers 866-217-9197 and 703-305-3028.

Alexander Boakye

Patent Examiner
AB
02/18/06



ALPUS H. HSU
PRIMARY EXAMINER